AMENDMENT TO THE SPECIFICATION

Kindly amend the title of the application as follows:

METHODS OF ORGAN REGENERATION USING HOX11-EXPRESSING PLURIPOTENT CELLS

Kindly amend the specification at page 28, line 6, through page 29, line 3, as follows:

Polyadenylated RNA was isolated from the pancreas or spleen (including the capsule and trabeculae) of C57BL/6, CByB6F1, NOD, or NOD/LtSz-Prkdc^{scid} (NOD SCID) mice. The latter animals are deficient in B and T cells and exhibit severe combined immune deficiency, with their pancreata thus devoid of insulitis and their spleens lacking most lymphoid cell populations. Complementary DNA synthesized from the isolated RNA by RT was subjected to PCR with primers specific for *Pdx1* (CACAAGCTTGCGGCCACA-CAGCTCTAC (SEQ ID NO: 1);GAGGGATCCACACTCTGGGTCCCAGAC (SEQ ID NO: 2)), *Hox11* (AAG-AAGAAGCCGCGCACATC (SEQ ID NO: 3); GGAGTCGTCAGACCACGGCT (SEQ ID NO: 4)) and *beta-actin-1* (TAAAACGCAGCTCAGTAACAGTCGG (SEQ ID NO: 5); TGCAATCCTGTGGCATCCA-TGAAAC). One step RT-PCR was performed on spleens and pancreata that were removed and soaked in RNA stabilization reagent (Qiagen Inc.,Valencia, CA) overnight prior to total RNA extraction using an RNA isolation column (Qiagen Inc., Valencia, CA). The template of RNA was fixed at 2μg for each sample and the reaction mixture was 12.5 mM $MgCl_2$, 10 mM of each deoxynucleoside triphosphate, 20 mM Tris-Cl (pH 8.7), 7.5 mM $(NH_4)_2SO_4$, 0.6 μg of each primer, 0.4 μL of RNase inhibitor (Invitrogen, Carlsbad, CA) and 2 μL of enzyme mix including reverse transcriptase and DNA polymerase. The amplification protocol comprised initial

incubations of 50°C for 30 min. and then 95°C for 15 min.; 3 cycles of 94°C for 1 min., 60°C for 1 min. (Pdx-1) or 63.9°C for 1 min. (*Hox11*) or 66.5°C for 1 min. (beta-Actin) and 72°C for 10 min. PCR products were separated by electrophoresis on a 1% Tri/Boric Acid/EDTA (TBE) agarose gel and stained with ethidium bromide.